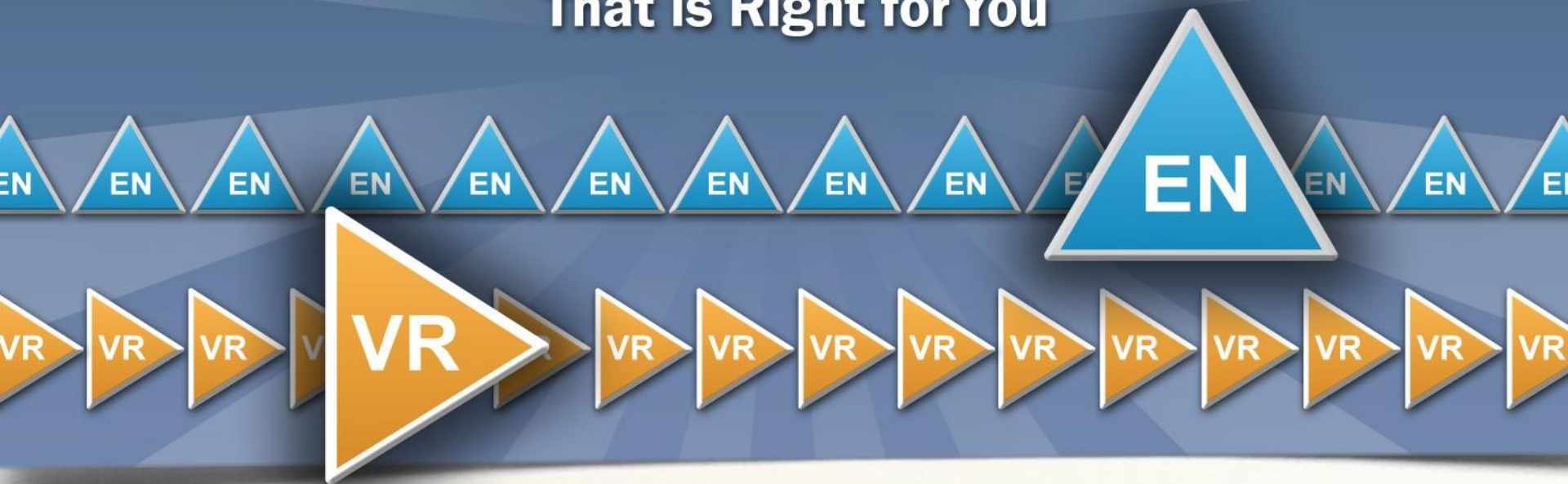




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TICKET TO WORK

**Choosing a Service Provider
That is Right for You**



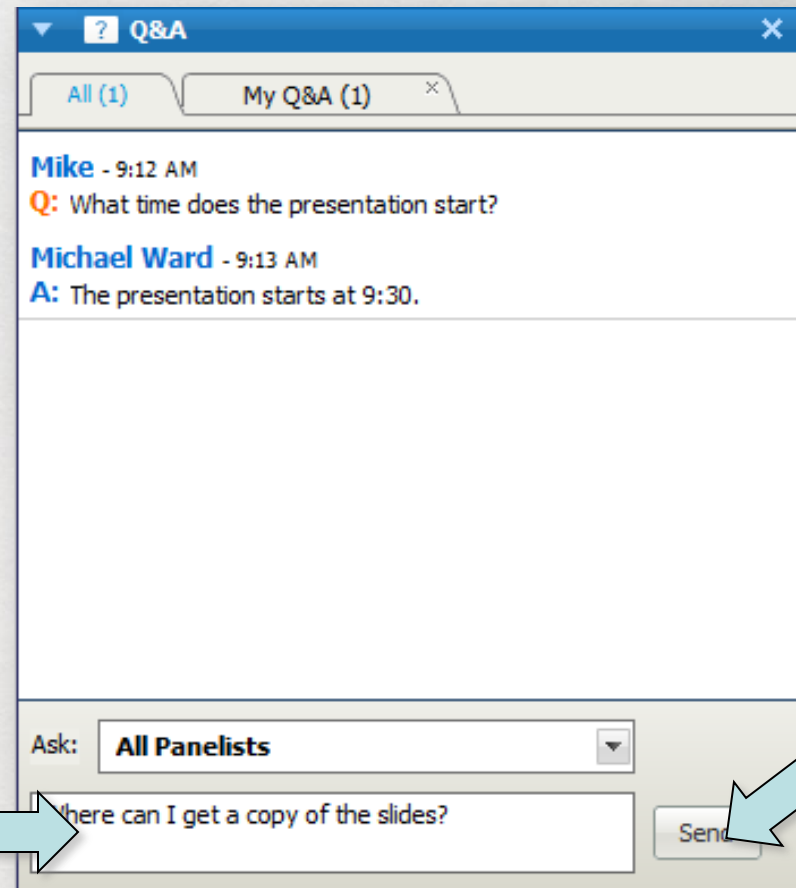
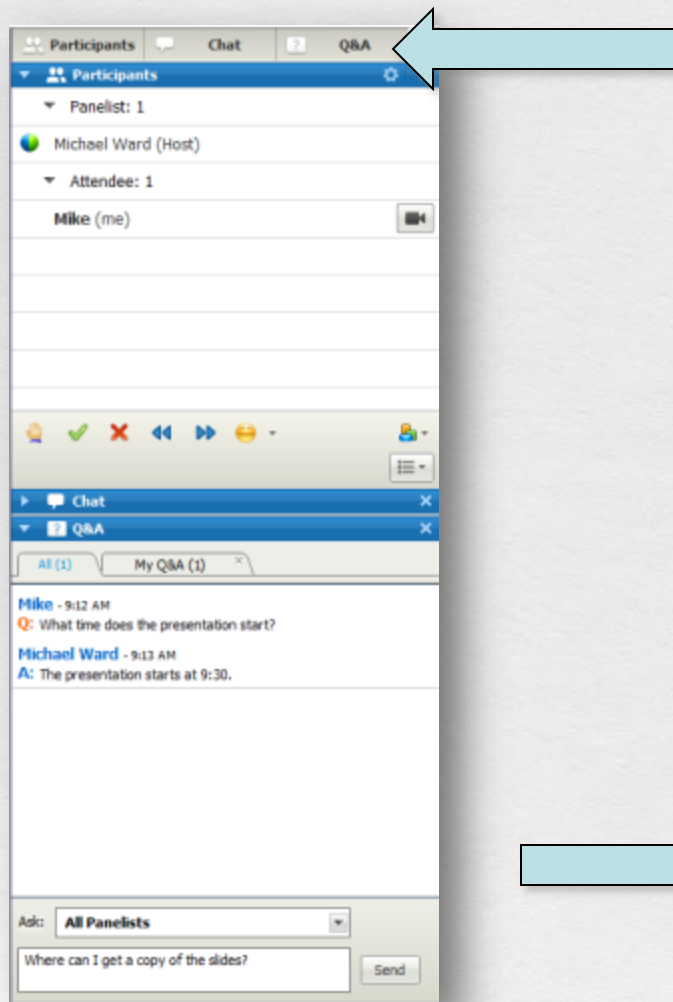
Work Incentives Seminar Event

Date: Wednesday, June 26

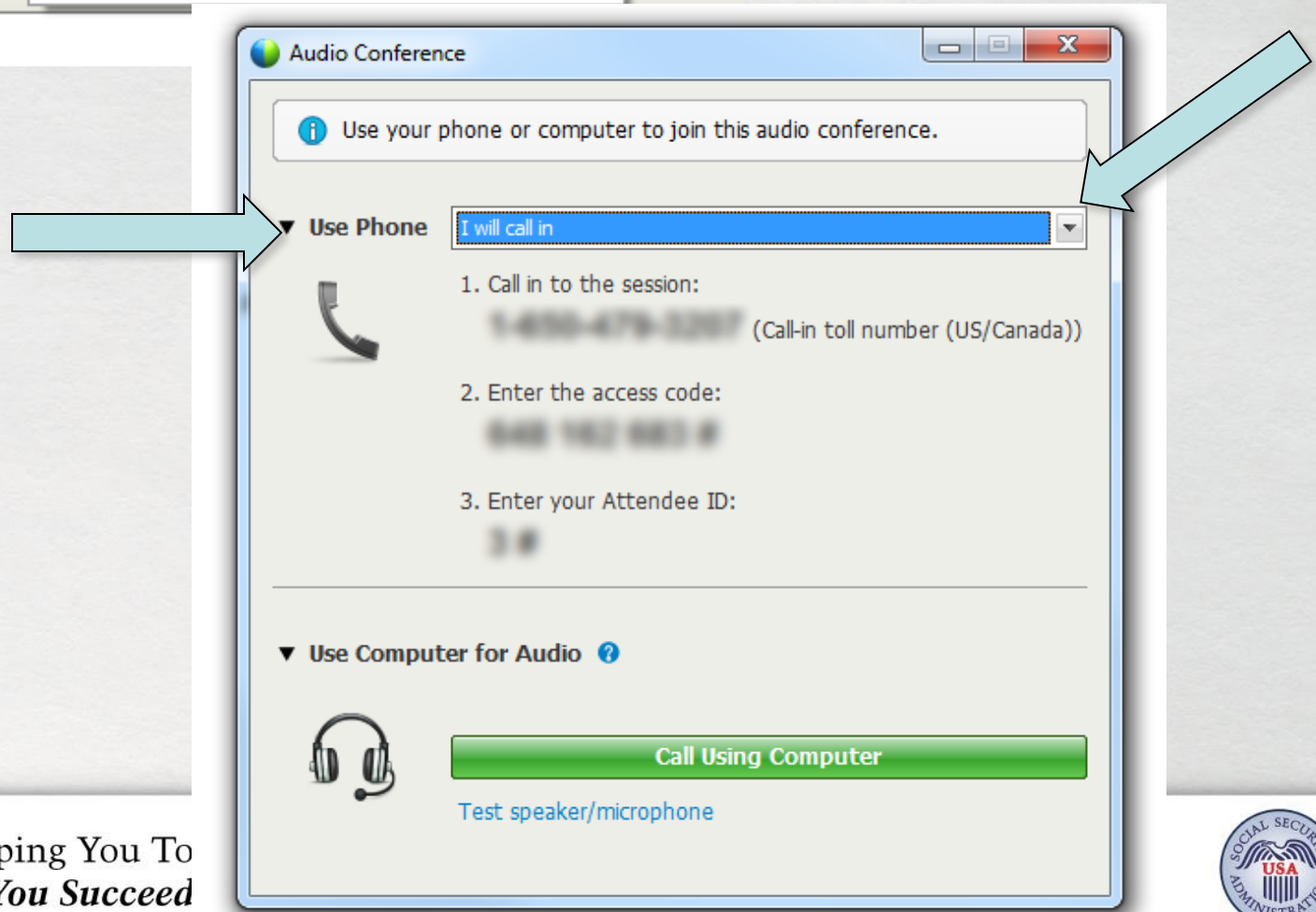
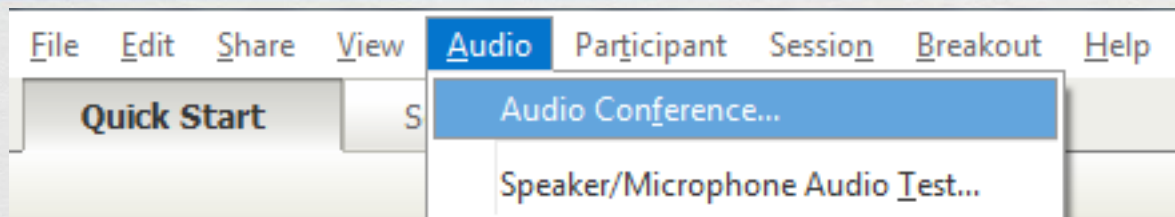
Time: 3:00-4:00 pm EDT



Adjusting Audio Mode



Audio and Questions Panels



Webinar Accessibility



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Webinar Accessibility

- Toll-Free number: 855-749-4750
 - Access code: 646-090-222
 - Closed captioning:
http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/captions.cfm?activity_id=4107
- Webinar PowerPoint, accessible PDF, and text are located at the URL link you received in your WISE confirmation and access letter.



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Webinar Accessibility

- Webinar presentation, transcript, and audio recording will be available in approximately two weeks at:

www.ilr.cornell.edu/edi/m-wise-webinars.cfm

- Webinar question & answer period

During the webinar, submit your questions on the webinar “chat” or to

webinars@choosework.net

Anytime after the webinar day, email your questions to support@chooseworkttw.net



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Agenda

- **Welcome and Introduction**
Ray Cebula, Employment & Disability Institute, Cornell University
- **The Ticket to Work Program**
Kathryn Groth, New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- **Exploring your work goals: What help do you need to get there?**
Jessica Banda, New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- **Who Can Help You? Deciding Whether to Work with an EN or VR**
Kathryn Groth
- **Finding an EN or VR**
Ray Cebula
- **What to Think about in Choosing the Right Employment Network**
Ken Williams, Adelante Development Center
- **Putting it all Together**
Ray Cebula
- **Questions and Answers**
Presentation Team



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A Welcome from Bob Williams, Associate Commissioner



What Can You Expect From This Presentation?

- Information on Social Security's **Ticket to Work** program
- How to think about your **work goals** and **what you need to get there**
- **Choosing the right service provider**
- Where to find **more information**
- **Success stories from people** who used their Ticket to Work



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Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income



Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income
- Gain independence



Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income
- Gain independence
- Meet new people



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Why Choose Work?

- Earn more income
- Gain independence
- Meet new people
- **Learn new skills**



The Ticket to Work Program



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What Is Ticket to Work?



Ticket to Work is a **free** and **voluntary** program to assist SSDI and SSI beneficiaries who have a disability go to work, enter the workforce for the first time, or increase their current work hours.

Our representatives at the **Ticket to Work Help Line** can help you understand how the program can work for you. For more information, call **1-866-968-7842** (V), 1-866-833-2967 (TTY), or visit www.socialsecurity.gov/work.



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When You're Ready To Work

Ticket to Work Program



SSDI

SSI

The Ticket to Work Program



If You:	Ticket to Work & Work Incentives Can:
Are ready to earn more money!	Help you improve your earning potential
Need the personal fulfillment that comes from working...	Provide the assurance and stability you need to feel confident while you pursue employment
Want to be able to get benefits back if your job does not work out because of your disability...	Put you on the fast track back to receiving benefits
Are overwhelmed and do not know where to turn...	Connect you with the people, resources and services you need to develop a work plan



Good Jobs, Good Careers, and
a Better Self-Supporting Future



When You're Ready To Work



Building your Employment Team is the best way to begin. You have options to help you get started:

- **Speak with an expert** at our Ticket to Work Help Line at 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY).
- **Learn more about Ticket to Work**, read our blog, and view, listen, or read real success stories at www.socialsecurity.gov/work.
- **Find an Employment Network** (EN) that meets your needs or work with your **state VR agency**.
- **Stay connected to your Employment Team** (EN or VR) as you explore your work options.



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Exploring Your Work Goals: What Help Do You Need to Get There?



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What are Your Work Goals?



Take some time to think about these questions:

- What **type of work** do I like to do?
- What are my **interests**?
- What **kind of job** do I want now?
- What kind of job do I want **5 years from now**?

What are Your Work Goals?



Take some time to think about these questions:

- What are my **long-term career goals**?
- **Where do I want to work?** At home? In an office? Outside? Etc.
- Do I want to be **self-employed** or **work for someone else**?

What are Your Work Goals?



After you get a sense of the kind of job you want, ask yourself these questions:

- What type of **training** or **education** might I need to reach my goal?
- Will I need **assistance at my workplace**? Special equipment? A job coach or special schedule?

What are Your Work Goals?

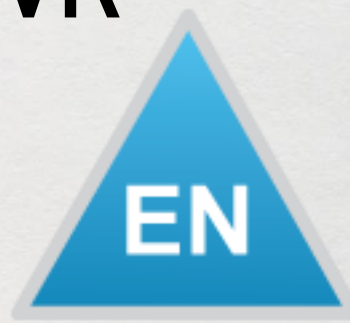


After you get a sense of the kind of job you want, ask yourself these questions:

- Do I have a **particular** job in mind or do I **need help** finding a job?
- Do I need help with my **résumé** or **interview** skills?
- Do I need help to **understand** how working will affect my benefits?

Who Can Help You?

Deciding Whether to Work with an EN or VR



Who Can Help You?



Now that you have thought more about your work goals, it is time to select a **service provider**.

The Ticket program offers you a choice of service providers:

- **Employment Networks** (ENs)
- State **Vocational Rehabilitation** (VR) agencies.

What services do VR Agencies and ENs offer?

Both offer specialized services such as **career counseling and job placement**, and much more!



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What are VR Agencies?



- Usually work with individuals who need more **significant services**; in some states, this includes intensive **training, education** and **rehabilitation**.
- May include more specialized services, such as **funding** for transportation and assistive technology aids.



What are VR Agencies?



When you use your Ticket for VR services:

- If you receive Social Security benefits because of your disability, you are **categorically eligible for VR services**.
- You and your VR counselor develop an **employment plan**.
- Your **Ticket is assigned to your VR** when you and your counselor sign your employment plan.
- Social Security may **postpone your Continuing Disability Reviews** (CDRs) as long as you are making timely progress towards employment.

What is an Employment Network?



- **Private** or **public** organization
- Helps with **career counseling**
- Provides assistance with **job placement**
- Have offices in your **community** or in your **state**
- Some serve people wherever they live by offering **virtual** services.



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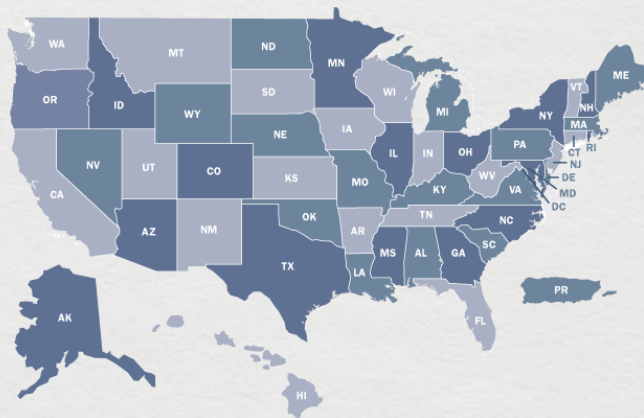


Can I Work With an EN and a VR?



You also have the option of receiving services from your **state VR agency** and then, when your VR services have ended, you can work with an **EN** to receive other services that will help you to **find a job**, or to **keep** the one you already have.

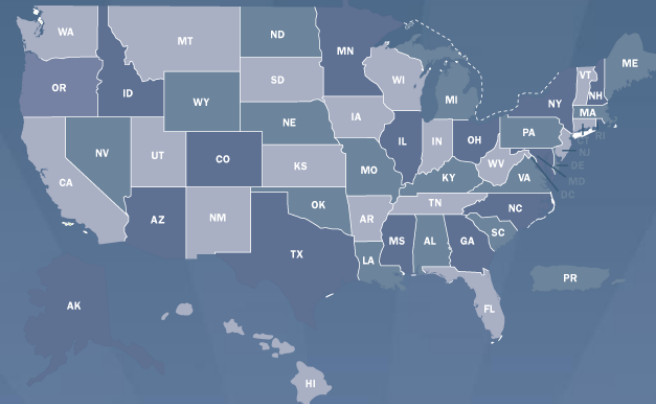




How do I find an EN or VR?



Finding an EN or VR Agency



- By now, you have the **information** you need to decide whether an EN or VR is right for you.
- Your next step is to use the **Find Help** tool to find a VR or EN to work with.
- Watch this video about how to use the Find Help Tool:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPCQwEVhZI4>
- Visit the Find Help Tool online:
www.choosework.net/findhelp

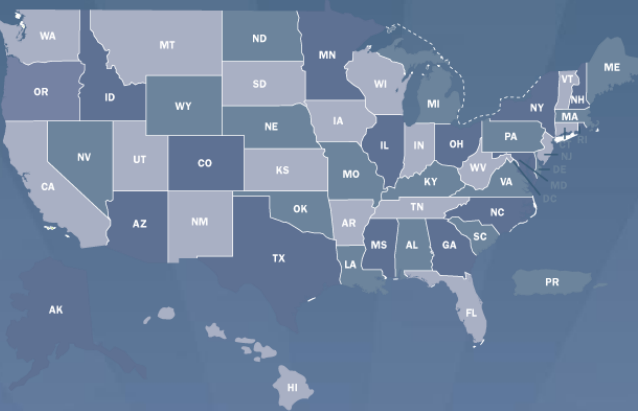


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What Now?

- Use the [Advanced Search](#) to create a customized list of service providers for you.
- Know that the list of ENs generated from your search may not have a local office near you, but they do [serve your ZIP code or state](#).
 - You can still work with them over the [phone](#) or by [email](#), and they may have a local office that isn't listed in the directory. Give them a call to find out.



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Choosing the Right Employment Network



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Choosing the Right EN



- If you know you will want to work with an EN, it's important to **pick the right EN for you!**
- The right EN will provide you with the **services** you need to **support** your work goals.



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Choosing the Right EN



- **Talk** with as many ENs as you need to see what they have to offer.
- **Ask questions!**
- **Take notes** as you talk to each EN and **compare** the services they offer with what you need.
- Download a helpful checklist you can take with you as you interview ENs!

http://choosework.net/Assets/docs-materials/TTW_Choosing_EN.pdf

Choosing the Right EN



- When you find an EN that is a good match, both you and the EN must **agree** to work together.
- Your EN will tell Social Security that you are going to work together, and will help you create an **Individual Work Plan** (IWP).
- An IWP is like a roadmap to help you reach your employment goals.
- To see a sample IWP, visit https://yourtickettowork.com/documents/10404/329655/IWP_12-5-12.pdf

Choosing the Right EN



- Take the time you need to feel good about the **choice** you are making.
- Many, but not all, ENs offer benefits counseling. Ask an EN who serves your area if they have a **benefits counseling professional** on staff to learn how work can affect your Social Security disability benefits.
- You can also get answers to your questions about Social Security disability benefits and work, by calling the **Ticket to Work Help Line**.

Questions That Can Help You Choose The Right EN



- What types of **services** does the EN provide?
- Does the EN know about **career options** for people with disabilities like yours?
- Does the EN know about the **supports and accommodations** you need?

Questions That Can Help You Choose The Right EN



- Does the EN **understand your needs** (how much assistance you require, how you prefer to be contacted, etc.)?
- What are the **skills** and **experience** of the staff who would be working with you?
- Has the staff been successful in finding **good-paying jobs** for people with disabilities like yours?

Putting it all Together



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Putting It All Together

- ✓ Think about your **work goals** and **what you need** to get there.
- ✓ Decide whether you would like to work with an **EN** or **VR** agency.
- ✓ Use the **Find Help Tool** to find a list of service providers near you.
- ✓ **Start interviewing** services providers to find the right provider for you!
- ✓ Contact the **Ticket to Work Help Line** if you have any questions.



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When You're Ready To Work



Building your Employment Team is the best way to begin. You have options to help you get started:

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- [Learn more about Ticket to Work](#), read our blog, and view, listen, or read real success stories at www.socialsecurity.gov/work.
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- [Stay connected to your Employment Team](#) (EN or VR) as you explore your work options.



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Other Resources

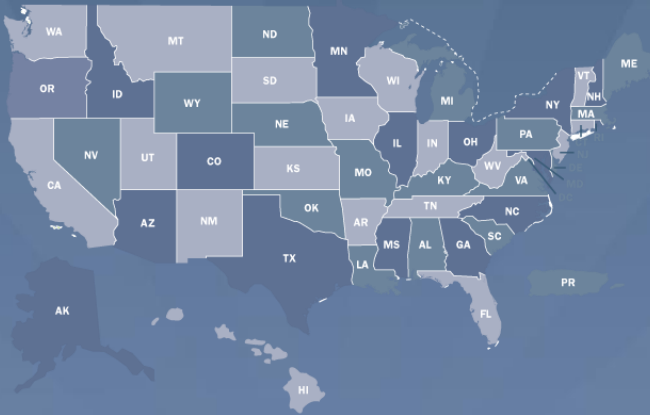
Ray Cebula



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Where to Get More Information



Visit:



www.socialsecurity.gov/work to find your local Employment Network and other Ticket to Work and Work Incentives information.

Call:

Ticket to Work Help Line:

- 1-866-968-7842 (V)
- 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)



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Questions?



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Follow us on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/chooseworkssa>

Ticket to Work Help Line: 1-866-968-7842 (V) or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY)



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